

Fellowship Kids

1st-3rd Grade Lesson Plan

Sunday, April 26

UNIT 15 | SESSION 3

GOD PROMISED A NEW COVENANT

JEREMIAH 17; 31

MAIN POINT / CHRIST CONNECTION: Like God's people, we all have sinful hearts that do not obey God or love Him rightly. Through Jesus' death on the cross, God made a new covenant and can give us new hearts. Those who trust in Jesus have their sin forgiven and have the law written on their hearts.

CATECHISM QUESTION : Q. What does Christ do for His people? A. He does the work of a prophet, a priest, and a king.

MEMORY VERSE of the Month: PSALM 145:9 - "The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made." (ESV)

Preparation

Lesson Context

This Unit: The Southern Kingdom of Judah experienced the reign of both good and evil kings. Yet, the people's allegiance was divided between the worship of God and the idols of foreign nations. God sent prophets to warn the people to turn back to Him, but they did not listen. God disciplined His people by sending them into captivity in Babylon but promised they would one day return home.

Volunteer Huddle | **8:45 a.m.**

Meet in the Threes classroom (first floor) for prayer and important info for this Sunday.

Prep Room | **8:50 a.m.**

- Put out activity pages (in Activity Box) and markers (in Teacher Box) on desks.

- If you'd like, put music on the Spotify app on the Roku TV.
- You can push tables back or to the sides to make space in the center or front of the room for activities.

Fellowship Time | 9:00 - 9:15 am

FELLOWSHIP TIME

Greet families at the door as they arrive. Allow children time to engage with one another and catch up. Use this time to get to know your students and hear about their week. What was a good part/hard part or “yay duck”/“yuck duck” of their week? If you'd like a prompting question for discussion, you can use the one below:

SAY: *Have you ever fixed something that was broken? What was it?*

ACTIVITY PAGE

Lead children to choose a desk and give them **an Activity Page and markers** (in Activity Box). You can also give them blank paper to draw or some playdough (in Teacher Box) if you prefer.

SAY: *Today, we will see how the prophets of Judah had an important message to share with God's people. God sent prophets to tell His people to repent of their sin.*

REVIEW CLASSROOM RULES

Post the **Rules Poster** (in Activity Box) somewhere in the room.

Group Activity | 9:10/9:15 am

OLD VS. NEW

Hold up **pictures of objects** (in Activity Box) that are old or considered obsolete now and have students attempt to guess what it is: old bicycle, iron, printing press, television, telephone, cassette tapes, VCR

tapes, ancient sunglasses, stovetop kettle, typewriter, Rolodex, etc, When kids guess correctly what each object is, have them tell you what that object is now replaced by.

SAY *Many of these items were replaced because new and better items came along. Today, we are going to talk about the old covenant between God and his people, which was impossible to keep because it required perfect obedience. But God promised a new and better covenant that would be fulfilled by Jesus and give us brand new hearts.*

Lesson | 9:20 am

Ask students to return to their desks and pass out **Bibles** (in Teacher Box). Let them know of your expectations during the lesson: listening to the teacher, sitting quietly with hands and feet to themselves, etc.

1. Introduce the Lesson + Pray

SAY *Welcome, kids! I'm excited you're here. If you have a Bible with you, will you hold it up? [Distribute Bibles to kids who need one.] Today's Bible story has some good news! As we study from the book of Jeremiah, we will learn about a good promise God made and how that promise is for us today.*

As we hear our Bible story, we will learn that God promised His people a new covenant and forgiveness of sin forever. As we have seen, God's people continued to sin and couldn't take away their sin on their own. But God had a plan. Through a Messiah, Jesus, God was going to make the way for people to be forgiven and have hearts that desired to love and follow God.

2. Using Bibles

SAY: *Today, we will be in the book of JEREMIAH. Jeremiah was a prophet who gave the people messages from God. The book of Jeremiah is a large book in the middle part of the Old Testament.*

3. Tell the Bible Story

Open your **Bible** to **JEREMIAH 17** and ask children to turn in their Bibles.

GOD PROMISED A NEW COVENANT

Before Babylon came and attacked Judah, God sent a prophet named Jeremiah to speak His words to God's people. Jeremiah said, "The sin of the people of Judah is like words carved into a stone—it can't be simply wiped away."

Jeremiah shared more of God's words, saying, "The person who trusts in other people is cursed, because people are sinful and imperfect. People cannot save themselves. The person who trusts in the Lord, however, will be strong and healthy, like a tree planted by water."

Through Jeremiah, God also said, "Our hearts are deceitful, and we cannot understand them. But God knows our hearts, and God is trustworthy. He gives each person what they deserve according to their character."

Even though people have sinful, deceitful hearts, Jeremiah shared how God promised to make a new covenant with His people. Jeremiah said, "Look, the days are coming when I will make a new covenant with my people. It will be different from the old covenant I made with them when I freed them from Egypt. They broke that covenant, but they will not be able to break this one.

"I will put my teaching within them and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. All my people will know me, from the least to the greatest. I will forgive them and never remember their sin."

4. Christ Connection

SAY: *Like God's people, we all have sinful hearts that do not obey God or love Him rightly. Through Jesus' death on the cross, God made a new covenant and can give us new hearts. Those who trust in Jesus have their sin forgiven and have the law written on their hearts.*

Review & Video | 9:30 am

Bible Story Video

If you'd like, watch the **Bible lesson video** on the YouTube app on the TV (*YouTube account should be Fellowship Kids* (switch accounts on the top of the left sidebar if not) > go to Library on the left side bar > Choose Playlists on the top > choose your classroom).

Review the Bible Story

Invite children to **open their Bibles to JEREMIAH 31:31-34.**

SAY - Let's review a section of scripture from our Bible lesson today. Please turn to **JEREMIAH 31:31-34. Have a volunteer read the passage.**

- 1. What do we learn about God in this passage?**
 - a. *He makes a new covenant with his people; he is like a husband to his people; he is the God to his people; all his people will know him; he will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.*
- 2. Where does Jeremiah say the law will be in this new covenant? See verse 33.**
 - a. *The law would now be written on people's hearts. The old covenant required people to obey all of God's laws and follow it perfectly! But no one can be perfect because all people are sinful. However, the new covenant would be accomplished by God. By God's grace He would forgive their sin. He would give them new hearts that desire to obey Him.*
- 3. Who came to earth to fulfill and start this new covenant?**
 - a. *Jesus, God's sinless Son, came to earth, died on the cross for sin, and rose again. Jesus' death paid the price we deserve for our sin. Through Jesus' death on the cross, God made a new covenant. Those who trust in Jesus have their sin forgiven and have the law written on their hearts.*

Pray

Ask students if they have any **prayer requests**. Pray about what you learned in the lesson and for any requests.

Catechism Question

Use the **Catechism Question** posters to review previous questions and learn the new one for this week (in Activity Box).

SAY: *Today we will review our catechism question for the month:*

Q. What does Christ do for His people?

A. He does the work of a prophet, a priest, and a king.

Today we learned that God promised he would make a new covenant because no one could keep the old covenant. Jesus came to earth and fulfilled the role of a priest: His death on the cross acted as a sacrifice that could cover all of our sin. Like a priest, Jesus is a mediator who brings his people back to God.

Let's review all of the catechism questions again:

Q) What kind of life did Christ live on earth?

A) A life of perfect obedience to the Law of God

Q. What does Christ do for His people?

A. He does the work of a prophet, a priest, and a king.

Memory Verse | 9:40 am

Show the **memory verse poster** (in Activity Box). Open your Bible to **PSALM 145:9** and lead the kids to read the verses together. You can also write the verse on the whiteboard so that children can see it more clearly.

“The LORD is good to all, and his mercy is over all that he has made.”

- PSALM 145:9

BIBLE VERSE SHOWDOWN

Have two kids stand back to back, then count to 3 and have them turn and face each other and say the verse. The kid who says the verse the fastest is the winner.

SAY: *Our key passage reminds us that God is good and merciful. We don't deserve the forgiveness given to us through the new covenant, but in His mercy and goodness, He did.*

Extra Activity

SINFUL HEARTS ERASED

Before the session, draw hearts on two dry erase boards, making sure the total number of hearts equals the total number of kids. Form kids into two equal teams. Challenge teams to send one kid at a time to write the word SIN in a heart. The team to have all kids fill every heart with SIN wins. Then repeat the challenge, but this time direct teams to compete erasing each SIN. The team to erase all the SIN wins.

SAY: *We all have sinful hearts. Unfortunately, unlike our game, we cannot just erase our sin. There is nothing we can or cannot do to take our sin away. Thankfully, God has provided the way for sin to be erased forever. Today, we learned how God promised His people a new covenant and forgiveness of sin forever.*

Dismissal | 9:50 am

As parents arrive,

- Match the 4 digit code on the parent's tag to the child's tag
- Check out the child on the tablet by clicking the check box to the left of their name on the roster.
- **Give feedback!** Tell parents how the student did that morning.

Clean Up

- Wipe down tables if any messes were made with activities. [Magic eraser sponges can erase markings on desks.]
- Put teacher and activity items back in the Activity Box or Teacher Box.
- Place the TV remote in the white holder on the dry erase board.
- Return the small Activity Box, class tablet, and your lanyards to the check-in desk.